

RESOLUTION NO. _____, SERIES 2009

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE LOUISVILLE METRO PLANNING COMMISSION TO HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING AND MAKE A RECOMMENDATION ON A REQUEST TO CHANGE THE NAME OF 34TH STREET, FROM ITS INTERSECTION WITH BROADWAY RUNNING SOUTHWARD TO ITS INTERSECTION WITH ALGONQUIN PARKWAY, TO LOUIS COLEMAN, JR. BOULEVARD.

Sponsored By: Councilwoman Judy Green

WHEREAS, the Legislative Council of the Louisville/Jefferson County Metro Government ("Metro Council") wishes to acknowledge the extraordinary life of Rev. Louis H. Coleman, and the significant contributions Rev. Louis H. Coleman, Jr. made to the civil rights movement and to society in general, especially within the Louisville Metro community; and

WHEREAS, the Rev. Louis H. Coleman, Jr. grew up attending segregated schools but became an iconic giant among human beings, fearlessly standing for justice, fairness and human dignity for all people in Jefferson County; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Louis Coleman was one of Louisville's most well-know links to the civil rights movement, working tirelessly with nationally recognized leaders Rev. Jesse Jackson, Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth and comedian-activist Dick Gregory for positive change; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Louis Coleman lead numerous protests against injustices, regularly conducted gun buybacks to reduce street violence, and patrolled streets, trying to get both drug users and ushers to adopt a new way of life; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Louis Coleman's life seemed to have been guided by an innate sense of fairness and justice, leading him (after graduating from Central High School, class of 1961) to obtain a masters degree in community development and a divinity degree from the Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary; to serve as beloved pastor of the First Congregational Methodist Church in Louisville, Kentucky; to become synonymous with the Justice Resource Center in Louisville; all of which strengthened and empowered his advocacy for justice and equality for disenfranchised people wherever he encountered them; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Louis Coleman, Jr. was inducted into the Kentucky Civil Rights Hall of Fame in 2000 for his contributions throughout the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Louis H. Coleman, Jr. will be remembered and respected as a courageous activist for social, political, and economic change by thousands of people throughout Jefferson County and Kentucky, and, therefore, the Metro Council desires that the Planning Commission consider the request to change the name of part of 34th Street to Louis Coleman, Jr. Boulevard in honor of Rev. Coleman's legacy, and hold a public hearing if requested to do so by an interested party.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE LOUISVILLE/JEFFERSON COUNTY METRO GOVERNMENT (THE COUNCIL) AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION I: The Metro Council hereby requests that the Planning Commission (i) review and make a recommendation to the Metro Council on a proposal to change the name of 34th Street, from its intersection with Broadway running southward to its intersection with Algonquin Parkway, to Louis Coleman, Jr. Boulevard, and (ii) transmit its recommendation to the Council immediately upon review by the Planning Commission.

SECTION II: This Resolution shall take effect upon its passage and approval.

Kathleen J. Herron
Metro Council Clerk

David W. Tandy
President of the Council

Jerry E. Abramson
Mayor

Approval Date

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

Michael J. O'Connell
Jefferson County Attorney

BY: _____